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Catholic Social Principles
in Juvenile Literature

Saint Louis Conference

VOL. 17, NO. 7

APRIL, 1946

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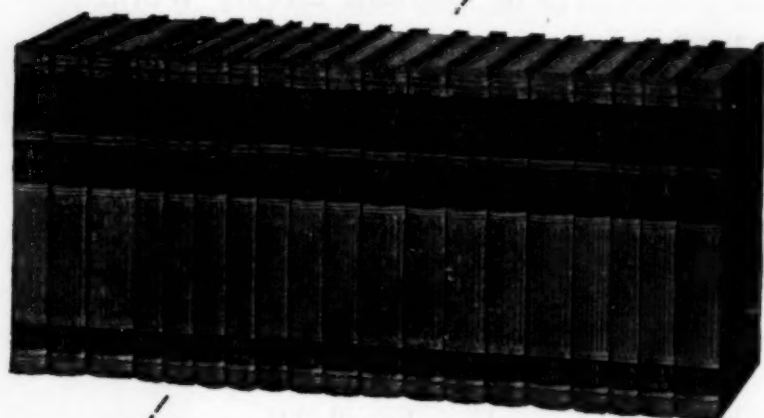
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Catholic Commercial Publishing in the United States¹

By SISTER MARY LUELLA, O.P.

Rosary College Department of Library Science
River Forest, Illinois

During the years 1943 and 1944 the writer made a study of the output of Catholic commercial publishers in the United States for the period 1930 to 1942. This article is a report of the results of the investigation, undertaken to evaluate the contribution of the Catholic publishers of this country to the field of Catholic literature.

The writer interpreted a "Catholic publisher" as one whose output, for the most part, treated of Catholic subjects and/or general subjects from a Catholic viewpoint. The following classes of Catholic publishers were omitted: (1) those whose main work is in the periodical field, such as George Pflaum, Dayton, (2) publishers of textbooks, such as W. H. Sadlier, New York, (3) publishers of special types of materials, such as McLaughlin and Reilly, Boston, (4) general publishers having strong Catholic departments, such as the Macmillan Company and Longmans, Green and Company, New York, (5) presses of Catholic universities, and (6) presses administered under the auspices of religious congregations. Two exceptions were made in the case of the last group mentioned: America Press, New York, and St. Anthony Guild Press, Paterson, New Jersey, seemed of sufficient importance to warrant inclusion in the study.

Specifically, the following thirteen publishers were included: (1) America Press, New York, (2) Benziger Brothers, Incorporated, New York, (3) Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee, (4) Devin-Adair Company, New York, (5) B. Herder Book Company, St. Louis, (6) P. J. Kenedy and Sons, New York, (7) John Murphy Company, Baltimore, (8) Frederick Pustet Company, Incorporated, New York, (9) Peter Reilly Company, Philadelphia, (10) Walter Romig and Company, Detroit, (11) St. Anthony Guild Press, Paterson, (12) Sheed and Ward, Incorporated, New York, and (13) Joseph F. Wagner, Incorporated, New York.

The basic data used in the study comprised a list of approximately two thousand titles published from January, 1930, to December, 1942, by the thirteen publishers enumerated. The primary source from which these titles were derived was the "Weekly Record" of the *Publishers' Weekly*. This department, in the phraseology of its subtitle, "describes this week's new books of all publishers in a convenient reference and buying list for all bookstores and libraries", thereby constituting the most complete current report of titles published in the United States.² Printed catalogs of the publishers were used to supplement the list derived from the item-by-item check of the "Weekly

1. A digest of a dissertation submitted to the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago in September, 1945, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

2. The *Publishers' Weekly*, the *American Book Trade Journal*. (New York: R. R. Bowker Company, 1872-.)

Record" in the 676 issues of the *Publishers' Weekly* for the calendar years 1930 to 1942. Correspondence with the publishers and personal interviews with representatives of the firms were, likewise, fruitful sources of information.

An estimate of the contribution of Catholic commercial publishers to the book trade in the United States from 1930 to 1942 necessitates an acquaintance with the quantity and quality of their production. The first of these two factors is relatively easy to determine objectively; the second can be appraised only with difficulty, if at all.

QUANTITATIVE CONSIDERATIONS

The quantitative considerations are presented in three main divisions: (1) trends in the volume of Catholic publishing from 1930 to 1942, (2) a comparison of the volume of Catholic publishing with that of all American publishing from 1930 to 1942, and (3) an analysis by publisher of the output of the Catholic firms from 1930 to 1942. The volume was necessarily measured in terms of the number of titles produced—statistics of the number of copies manufactured and distributed, which would have given a truer picture of the book industry, were not and are not available.

Trends in the Volume of Catholic Publishing, 1930-1942

The ebb and flow of the book production of the Catholic publishers during 1930 decade showed in general a close adherence to that of all American publishers—a severe drop in title production during the depression of the early 30's was followed by a gradual return to normalcy from 1934 to 1937. A second period of decline beginning in 1938 synchronized with the early years of World

War II. A sudden and decisive drop in the curve of Catholic book production accompanied the opening of the 1940 decade. This phenomenon was in striking contrast to the experience of publishers in general. In 1940 the general book trade reached its highest peak in twenty-five years, and in 1941 it experienced only a one per cent decrease below the figures for 1940.³ Catholic publishers, on the other hand, issued twenty-three per cent fewer titles in 1940 than in 1939, and thirty-five per cent fewer in 1941 than in 1939.

Two factors may be suggested to account for this contrast between the title production of the Catholic firms and that of publishers in general. One conspicuous reverberation of the war was the greatly augmented interest in technical subjects, and a corresponding expansion in the number of books produced in this field. In 1940 a total of 611 technical titles emanated from American publishers,⁴ an increase of thirty-five per cent over the figures for 1939, and in 1941 a total of 741 titles appeared, an increase of sixty-three per cent over the 1939 output. Since none of the Catholic houses except Bruce are active in the technical field to any appreciable extent, they did not participate in this, the most notable expansion of the book industry in the early 40's. A factor of less significance is the reliance of several of the Catholic publishers, notably Sheed and Ward, one of the largest houses, on the manuscripts of English and continental authors, a source seriously curtailed by the war.

By 1942 publishing in general experienced an ebb, the total number of new books reaching the lowest figure since

3. *Publishers' Weekly*, CXLI (January 17, 1942), 166.

4. *Ibid.*, p. 179.

1935.⁵ One of the most observable characteristics of the thirteen-year period was the tendency on the part of Catholic publishers to issue during the periods of business decline from 1930 to 1933 and from 1938 to 1942 a relatively greater number of editions and reprints of older titles than in the period of business acceleration from 1934 to 1937. With the upturn of industry in the middle 30's publishing energy turned somewhat from the use of existing plates to the manufacture of new ones.

Comparison of the Volume of Catholic Publishing With That of All American Publishing, 1930-1942

In order to arrive at an estimate of the numerical significance of Catholic book production in the general publishing world, a comparison was made between the output of the Catholic houses and American book production in general, as recorded in the *Publishers' Weekly*. During the period 1930 to 1942 the Catholic publishers produced 1,755 new titles, which, as will be observed later, were distributed into thirteen subject fields. The output of all domestic publishers in the thirteen subjects in which the Catholic firms were productive amounted to 86,645 new titles. The Catholic contribution, two per cent, was numerically small.

The significance of this proportion can be better appreciated by a comparison of

the number of productive Catholic publishers with the total number of productive American publishers. For the period under consideration the average number of productive American publishers was 233; the average number of active Catholic publishers was eleven, or slightly less than five per cent of the total number of active publishers. The title production of these active Catholic publishers was two per cent of the total output in the thirteen fields in which they were productive. Thus, it is apparent that, all proportions guarded, Catholic publishing activity was less than half the activity of domestic publishers in general.

It is pertinent to emphasize at this point that this study was concerned with only a portion of the literature emanating from presses administered under Catholic auspices; nor does it consider the Catholic publications of such secular firms as Macmillan and Longmans, Green. The terms "Catholic output" and "Catholic publishers" are used here within the restrictions laid down in the opening paragraphs, and in no sense connote the total Catholic output nor all Catholic publishing in the United States.

Analysis by Publisher of the Output of Catholic Firms, 1930-1942

The presentation of a quantitative view of Catholic publishing up to this point has included two aspects of the subject:

5. *Ibid.*, CXLIII (January 16, 1943), 226.

TABLE I
DISTRIBUTION OF CATHOLIC PUBLISHERS ACCORDING TO THE
NUMBER OF NEW TITLES PUBLISHED, 1930-1942

Number of New Titles Published, 1930-1942	Number of Publishers
1-50	7
50-100	0
100-200	2
200-300	2
300-400	1
400-500	1
Total	13

(1) the total volume of the titles issued by the Catholic firms and the trends therein from 1930 to 1942, and (2) the relationship between this portion of book manufacturing and the total book production of all American publishers for the same period. There remains for consideration the quantity of titles produced by each of the Catholic houses separately.

Table 1 shows the distribution obtained when the publishers were grouped according to their output of new titles.

From this tabulation it is apparent that seven firms, or over one-half of the publishers, issued less than fifty new titles each in the entire period. These firms were America Press, Devin-Adair, Murphy, Pustet, Reilly, Romig, and Wagner. Two firms, Kenedy and St. Anthony Guild, issued between one hundred and two hundred titles; two firms, Benziger and Herder, issued between two hundred and three hundred titles; one firm, Sheed and Ward, issued between three hundred and four hundred titles; one firm, Bruce, issued between four hundred and five hundred titles.⁶ These last six publishers

together produced 1,561 new titles, or eighty per cent of the total output of new titles. In other words, slightly less than one-half of the Catholic publishers were responsible for four-fifths of the titles produced.

To clarify further the publishing pattern of the individual houses, the average annual number of new titles issued by each of the publishers was computed. Arranged in a rank order based upon these averages, the publishers appear as in Table 2.

On the basis of these figures, the publishers fall roughly into four groups: (1) Bruce, and Sheed and Ward, producing approximately thirty new titles annually, (2) Benziger and Herder, producing approximately twenty new titles annually, (3) Kenedy and St. Anthony Guild, producing approximately ten new titles annually, and (4) Wagner, Reilly, Pustet, Devin-Adair, America Press, Murphy, and Romig, all producing less than five titles annually. These statistics furnish substantial evidence that even the largest of the Catholic publishers fall, in the total domestic scene, into the category of small publishers.

6. Bruce's non-technical titles were not considered in this study.

TABLE 2
AVERAGE ANNUAL NUMBER OF NEW TITLES ISSUED BY
CATHOLIC PUBLISHERS, 1930-1942

Rank	Publisher	Average Annual Output of New Titles, 1930-1942
1	Bruce	32.1
2	Sheed & Ward	32.0
3	Benziger	21.0
4	Herder	18.8
5	Kenedy	13.4
6	St. Anthony Guild Press	10.1
7	Wagner	3.6
8	Reilly	3.1
9	Pustet	3.1
10	Devin-Adair	2.2
11	America Press	2.1
12	Murphy	0.7
13	Romig	0.3

The trends in the publishing activity of each firm, based upon the number of new titles produced year by year from 1930 to 1942, may be summarized as follows:

1. Bruce maintained its position in the upper level with greatest consistency and least fluctuation from year to year. However, from 1930 to 1932 it was surpassed by Benziger and Herder, and in 1936 and 1937 by Sheed and Ward.

2. The data for Sheed and Ward began in 1933, the year in which this firm opened its New York office. Although Sheed and Ward reached a higher peak than Bruce during 1936 and 1937, it fell considerably below the Bruce output from 1938 to 1941. By 1942 the number of new titles issued by the two houses was identical. In general, Sheed and Ward's

activity was subject to greater fluctuations than was Bruce's activity.

3. Herder and Benziger in the early 30's surpassed all the other publishers by a considerable margin. Both experienced sharp declines during the depression and never regained their former level.

4. Kenedy maintained a fairly regular pattern of title production. Its decline in the number of new titles issued during the depression was the least of all the publishers. Kenedy's reputation for conservatism was substantiated by this analysis.

5. The data for St. Anthony Guild Press began in 1931 when this firm published its first title. From its inception the number of its titles has risen gradually from year to year. After 1940 its output was surpassed only by that of Bruce and Sheed and Ward.

TABLE 3
COMPARISON OF THE RELATIVE EMPHASIS PLACED UPON THE VARIOUS SUBJECTS
BY CATHOLIC PUBLISHERS WITH THE EMPHASIS PLACED UPON THESE
SUBJECTS BY ALL AMERICAN PUBLISHERS, 1930-1942

Subject Categories of "International Classification"	Rank		New Titles Published 1930-1942		Number of Catholic Publishers Contributing
	Catholic Publishers	All American Publishers	Catholic Publishers	All American Publishers	
Religion, Theology	1	3	1,073	8,797	13
Juvenile Works	2	2	116	9,560	8
Sociology, Economics	3	4	94	8,336	11
Philosophy, Ethics	4	18	77	1,987	10
Fiction	5	1	73	16,649	10
Poetry, Drama	6	5	55	7,746	8
History	7	6	53	7,503	7
Biography	8	7	41*	7,382	8
General Literature	9	8	39	5,070	5
Philology	10	15	37	2,758	7
Education	11	13	36	3,302	8
Science	12	9	25	4,685	6
Geography, Travel	13	12	12	3,352	5
Fine Arts	14	16	8	2,742	3
Miscellaneous	15	23	8	781	5
Medicine, Hygiene	16	11	3	3,806	4
Technical, Military	17	10	3	4,053	3
Business	18	14	3	2,823	3
Music	19	21	2	1,040	2

*Non-religious biography; one hundred and ninety-three titles in religious biography were classified as subdivisions of Religion in Religious Biography, and contribute to the 1,073 titles in this field.

*Subject Analysis of the Output of
Catholic Publishers, 1930-1942*

A distribution of the Catholic titles into the subject categories of the "International Classification", a scheme employed in the "Annual Summary Number" of the *Publishers' Weekly*, revealed the relative strength or weakness of the publishers in the various fields. Table 3 (p. 199) exhibits this distribution together with the output of all domestic publishers in the same fields.

It is apparent that the Catholic publishers have been preponderantly more active in the field of Religion and Theology than in any other subject. In fact, this single category comprised approximately sixty per cent of the total Catholic output. That Religion and Theology had the highest title frequency was not astonishing; that this was the only field in which all of the thirteen Catholic publishers contributed was somewhat unex-

pected. In addition, this field was the only one in which the ratio of the Catholic title production to the total domestic production—approximately twelve per cent—was substantial. In all other fields the proportion of Catholic titles to total production was so slight that the Catholic firms could not be considered serious competitors of the general publishers.

It is interesting to observe that Religion and Theology, Sociology and Economics, Fiction, and Juvenile Works rank high with both groups of publishers. History, Biography, Geography and Travel, General Literature, Poetry and Drama come within one of ranking in identically the same position in the two groups; Education, Fine Arts, and Music come within two of the same rank. For the remaining subjects there is a wider divergence in the ranking, Philosophy showing the greatest disparity, with a rank of four and eighteen respectively.

TABLE 4
RELATIVE EMPHASIS PLACED UPON SUBDIVISIONS OF RELIGION AND THEOLOGY
BY CATHOLIC PUBLISHERS IN TERMS OF TITLES PUBLISHED, 1930-1942

Rank	Subdivisions	Number of New Titles Published, 1930-1942	Percentage of Total Titles Published in Religion and Theology
1	Religious Biography	193	18
2	Doctrinal Theology	168	16
3	Devotional Literature	155	15
4	Ascetic Theology	100	9
5	Catechetics	81	8
6	Liturgy	70	7
7	Church History	69	6
8	Fundamental Theology: Apologetics	56	5
9	Scripture	47	4
10	Homiletics	35	3
11	Pastoral Theology	25	2
12	Moral Theology: Christian Ethics	22	2
13	Canon Law	17	2
14	Theology in General	13	1
15	Mystic Theology	12	1
16	Christian Literature	10	1
	Total	1,073	100

(Continued on page 219)

The Catholic Child and His Reading

By BLANCHE JENNINGS THOMPSON

Catholic parents may be divided into several categories with regard to their children's reading: the relatively few who anxiously haunt Catholic bookstores and scarcely dare to buy a book without an imprimatur; a slightly larger number who buy suitable books willingly enough when prodded by priest or teacher or perhaps by the child himself; and the vastly greater number who never pay any attention to what their children are reading. The number of discriminating parents who actually keep abreast of trends in Catholic literature and help to create such a market as will encourage new and competent writers in that field is almost too small to mention.

As a matter of fact, there is a steadily growing output of excellent books suitable for the Catholic child's library, offered not only by specifically Catholic firms but by secular publishers, several of whom offer annually goodly lists of well-written, beautifully illustrated children's books, Catholic in content and treatment. More will be forthcoming as fast as there is any demand. Just as in the movies the success of one or two outstanding Catholic films brought others in their wake, so in the publishing world, supply will follow demand. Parochial school teachers and librarians are increasingly making their influence felt, and various literary movements which have arisen in recent years have helped to

focus attention upon Catholic literature, past and present. The Pro Parvulis Book Club has done yeoman work in raising standards of taste and in actually getting the finest books of the year into Catholic schools and homes; the indefatigable Sister Mary Joseph, S.L., through the Gallery of Living Catholic Authors, has not only laid the foundations for cultural research and for the recording and preserving of contemporary literary materials, but has been a source of encouragement to many writers for children by adding a juvenile division to the Gallery; and Brother George Schuster, by means of his junior edition of *Catholic Authors* has reached more than 100,000 teachers, students and librarians with brief, entertaining sketches and pictures of Catholic writers, old and new. In the last analysis, however, in spite of all these hopeful signs, it is the Catholic parents who hold the balance of power, and they must be prevailed upon to use it.

The great question just now is not so much what children shall read, but how can they be made to read at all. The pattern of family living has changed and decidedly not for the better. There is too much disunity in the average family. Each member has his own interests and there is little disposition to join in such activities as the old-fashioned family reading circle. Movies, radio, and the even more disturbing entertainment to be

found in the ever multiplying roadside inns and city taverns offer overwhelming competition to the quiet and leisurely pursuit of reading, more especially with the teen-aged children. Catholic families ought to be different, but to their shame be it said, there are just as many Catholic young people in the bars and grills as there are others. One is constrained to wonder where their parents are, and the cynical answer is often made that they are in some other tavern. Certain it is that drinking as a means of recreation is rapidly on the increase. With war-time restrictions lifted, the grills and road-houses springing up even in rural sections constitute a grave menace to youth. Those parents who view the situation with concern are faced with the necessity of making their homes more attractive to their growing children, of establishing more wholesome recreational habits, of achieving greater family unity and solidarity by just old-fashioned "doing things together". The story hour and the reading circle, picnics, parties, family celebration of birthdays and feast days, family Communion, and above all, the family rosary must be restored if parents honestly desire to fulfill the law of the Church with regard to the upbringing of children.

Just what should the Catholic child be reading, it may well be asked. First of all, the Catholic parent must not think that he has done his duty if he has bought a few pious books for his children. Since from the beginning, the Catholic Church has been the custodian of culture and the patron of the finest in art, music, and letters, the Catholic child should have a liberal grounding in classical literature, including mythology and folklore. (Every Catholic child, incidentally, who is capable of so doing should learn at least enough Latin to follow the liturgy of the

Church, to make the responses in a dialogue Mass, and even to carry on simple conversation in that language. Latin should be the second language of Catholics.) Such standard children's books as the Grimm and Andersen fairy tales, *Robin Hood*, *King Arthur*, *Pinocchio*, *Heidi*, *The Little Lame Prince*, *The Prince and the Pauper*, *Little Men*, *Little Women*, and *Tom Sawyer* should form the basis of the family library. Anthologies of folklore and poetry for reading aloud, a good dictionary, and if possible a reliable encyclopedia should also be standard equipment.

In addition to a well-chosen assortment of secular books, the Catholic child should have as many of the best books presenting various aspects of his own religion as his parents can afford, and he should be trained to realize that the most important shelf of all is the one holding his spiritual reading. Too many adults now shy away from such reading; the next generation must be better trained. One difficulty may be too narrow a conception of what constitutes spiritual reading. Some of the best Catholic magazines, particularly those which deal with mission activities, furnish the finest kind of spiritual reading. Many a vocation has sprung from a seed planted in the columns of a mission magazine.

First place in this category of spiritual books, of course, goes to the *Bible*, with which Catholic children should be much more familiar than they are. The New Testament makes a good introduction to the complete Bible, and any Catholic book store can produce a dozen lovely Bible picture books for the younger children. Next to the Bible goes *The Imitation of Christ*, in which children should be taught to read a chapter every day. If parents really took their obligations seri-

ously, every Catholic child would also be taught to use his Missal daily and to read at least a shortened form of the Breviary such as the Benedictine *Short Breviary*. If Vespers and Compline, at least, were said in common by Catholic families, the practice would be a means of securing many graces and blessings.

Among the books of fiction, adventure, or biography, having a Catholic background, there are dozens from which to choose. One sad aspect of the current craze for something new all the time is the fact that a number of really excellent books disappear from the lists all too soon, crowded out by newer, though not always better, titles. Two such books that come to mind are *Little Saint Therese* and *Little Saint Elizabeth*, both written by Elizabeth von Schmidt-Pauli, and translated by George W. Shuster.

Other good titles among less recent books, many of which may well be classed as spiritual reading, include: *The Little Book About God*, Lauren Ford; *The Ragman of Paris*, Elizabeth O. Jones; *The Christ Child*, Maud and Miska Peter-sham; *Petite Suzanne*, Marguerite d'Angeli; *Saint Germaine of the Wolf Country*, Henri Ghéon; *In God's Garden*, Amy Steedman; *Jacques the Goatherd*, Mari-belle Cormack; *The Girl Who Ruled a Kingdom*, Charlotte Kellogg; *King Richard's Squire*, Regina Kelly; *Joan of Arc*, Boutel de Monvel; *Angel of the Schools*, Raissa Maritain; *Sachem Bird*, Gertrude Robinson; *Three Tunes for a Flute*, Rose M. Sackett; *The Good Master*, Kate Seredy; *Sword of the Wilderness*, Elizabeth Coatsworth; *Ten Saints*, Eleanor Farjeon; *The Goldsmith of Florence*, Katherine Gibson; *At the Sign of the Golden Compass*, Eric Kelly; *Old Spain in Our Southwest*, Nina Otero; *In Our Convent Days*,

Agnes Repplier; *O'Donel of Destiny*, Mary Kiely; *Rocking Chair Ranch*, Lenora H. Weber; *The Flame*, Jeanette Eaton; *Fish on Friday*, Leonard Feeney, S.J.; *Cradle of the Storms*, Bernard Hubbard, S.J.; *Abbe Pierre and His People*, Jay W. Hudson; *Rockne of Notre Dame*, D. S. Lovelace; *At Your Ease in the Catholic Church*, Mary Perkins, and *Katerina Tekakwitha*, Daniel Sargent. It should be noted, moreover, that nearly every author listed above has written other books equally suitable for children's reading at various ages.

During the past year a number of excellent books have appeared. Among the most interesting are: Maura Laverty's *Gold of Glanaree*; Sigrid Undset's *True and Untrue*; Hilda Van Stockum's *The Mitchells*; Constance Savery's *Emeralds for the King*; Leighton Barret's especially fine adaptation of Cervantes' *The Adventures of Don Quixote*; Adalbert Stifter's beautiful *Rock Crystal*, excellently translated by Elizabeth Mayer and Marianne Moore; Joan Wyndham's *New Six O'clock Saints*; *Our Lady's Feasts*, by Sister Mary Jean Dorcy, O.P.; *Our Lady Goes A-Maying*, by Mother Mary Paula Williamson, a Religious of the Cenacle; *The Adventures of the Red Crosse Knight* by Sister Mary Charitina, B.V.M.; *The Summer Jerry Never Saw* by Neil Boy-ton, S.J.; *Children of Fatima*, by Mary Fabyan Windeatt; the exceptionally fine *One God* by Florence Mary Fitch; and *Larger Than the Sky*, Covelle Newcomb's entertaining biography of Cardinal Gibbons.

If children have access to books such as those listed above, it will do much to counteract the effect of the "comics", the "Westerns", and the other deadly pulp paper products which weaken vocabulary,

(Concluded on page 217)

Catholic Social Principles in Juvenile Literature

By SISTER M. BERNICE, F.S.P.A.

St. Mary's School, Muscatine, Iowa

Any consideration of Catholic social principles in children's literature must start with an emphasis on the Mystical Body of Christ and the application of this doctrine to practical social living. The restoration of a Christian social order will inevitably demand thorough-going reforms in the field of education. In the words of the late Doctor Edward Leen: "The salvation of the world lies in uniting the practice of the True Faith to an outlook on life consistent with that faith. It is the function of a Christian education to impart to the young such an outlook, or, in other words, such a philosophy of life. It does not need prophetic vision to foresee that, unless the reconstruction of society aims at this, there are many now living who will survive to see another world cataclysm surpassing the present one in the immensity of its horror and ruin".¹

Whether people realize it or not, their reading habits reflect their living habits. It does matter—people think about the things they read and frequently end up doing the things they think about. Those who direct the reading of children must prepare them for the gigantic task of Catholic Action by bringing them to the well-spring that is clearest and purest at its source, the Liturgy of the Church, whose chief inspiration flows from the Holy Spirit Himself.

1. Leen, Edward, C.S.Sp. *What Is Education*. Sheed & Ward, 1944. p. 22-3.

In the Third Nocturne of the Breviary recited for the Feast of the Precious Blood on July first, we find the keynote to a discussion on the superiority of any race. Saint Augustine is speaking. He poses the question: "Do you think Christ died only for the Africans? What do you think the Blood of Christ is worth?" No better patron for this study can be found than the great Saint Augustine who did so much in his own day to clarify thought on the vital social problems of the day.

Saint Augustine, moreover, has this to say to his people: "Many may say 'My God'; He belongs wholly to all since He gave Himself to all for their delight. He gives Himself wholly in everything and to everyone. He is not more distinct close at hand, and less distinct at a distance, but He embraces everything from one end of the earth to the other. He holds all in His strong clasp. He rules mildly—God belongs to all equally". The discussion is concluded with the questions: "Has this one less? Has this one more? Perhaps of gold but not of God!" It is significant that today the same questions must be asked, but of a race of a different color.

In a consideration of Catholic social principles in juvenile literature, we shall consider a lack of the proper attitude as being un-American and un-Catholic. The attitude existing too generally in the United States today is a mockery of the

American Creed. The American Creed is a sacred and beautiful thing. It recognizes fundamental human rights irrespective of religion, race, or political differences.

We who have been disturbed by the lack of a closer correlation between faith and practice can understand what Marie Syrkin means when, in the introduction of her book, *Your School, Your Children* (Fischer, New York, \$2.50), she writes: "The faces of the Detroit race rioters were disconcertingly familiar. The pictures of the white hoodlums that ganged up on one helpless Negro disturbed me because the evil-doers did not look especially evil. I had seen those faces so often, and as always they baffled me. Why was the boy, who the day before had glibly recited the triumphant words, 'dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal', and who was still quite sure that Lincoln was a great guy because he had freed the slaves, now beating the prostrate Negro? Where was the carry-over? Why were the many boys and girls taught in the public schools of a great democracy potentially the unwitting subverters of our basic ideals?" As Catholic educators we must make the same admission.

The Reverend Paul Furfey writing in *Friendship House News* for May, 1942, comments: "The presence or absence of race prejudice is a fine test of a good American and a good Catholic. We become good Americans by sacrificing ourselves for those principles for which America stands, specifically for equal justice and equal opportunity for all". For the Catholic, Christ's words are the guide: "By this shall all men know that you are My disciples, if you have love one for another", John 13:25.

Not merely because of the social aspect, but even more important in an apostolic role, the Catholic Church has a definite obligation to the Negro. It would be futile to deny that racial prejudice is as frequent and deep-seated among Catholics as among non-Catholics. Evidently the encyclical condemnations of racism have not reached enough ears. With scarcely more than 250,000 of the thirteen million Negroes in this country Catholic, there is a challenge to Catholic missionary zeal. We have neglected his body, we dare not neglect his soul.

Race prejudice, we are told, is not inherited, but is learned often in early childhood. Little children seem to be immune from it, but they learn quickly from their elders. As Catholic librarians, we have a duty to see what can be done to build up the right attitudes through a reading program. In these days when the lights are going out in so many parts of the world, what better work can the Catholic librarian do than to light some of the lamps of interracial justice in this country that have never been lit?

In considering books for any minority group, a consideration must be made of their natural resentment toward a suggestion of inferiority. At all times children should be protected from harmful books, especially the type that belittle or caricature human beings. It is important to include books that will build pride in racial backgrounds, curiosity about divergent races, and true racial tolerance. We have had too much of the type of Indian book that was once all blood and thunder and is now all sweetness and light; and the Negro book which gives a picture of a nostalgic South. In this group, as well as in the South American book, the element of servitude in an

under-privileged group has been given undue emphasis.

In a consideration of racial books attention should be given to language. Stories can be regional and authentic without using dialect. Negroes, if educated, no longer talk like Uncle Remus. We must distinguish between dialect and folkways. The latter is used effectively by artists like Marian Anderson and Paul Robeson. These folkways are a heritage of the Negro and belong to them. *Jump Lively, Jeff* by Ada C. Darby is an example of an inartistic use of dialect. Arna Bon-temps, in *Sad Faced Boy*, made a contribution in contrasting the rhythmic drawl of the Southerner with the more correct clipped speech of the Northerner. Care should be used, too, in the description of personal appearance. Today the Negro no longer wears a halo of many plaits of braided hair.

The illustrations in Negro books should be carefully checked. One of the criticisms frequently made of the early "Nicomemus" books by Inez Hogan is that they seem to wear "too much lipstick". At the moment an increasingly pleasing solution of the problem of illustration is being made through books in which actual photographs are used. *Tobe* by S. G. Sharpe and *My Happy Day*, by J. D. Schackelford illustrate this point well.

As Christians we must condemn the use of derogatory terms such as "Nigger", "Rastus", and "pickaninny", for they have connotations which make them very repulsive to the Negro. The Negro must always be considered as a man, and hence, as possessing human dignity. Such a passage as one found in Kathryn Worth's *Middle Button* is especially objectionable: "Don't wash them any more, Maggie. You might give them pneu-

monia. Niggers are accustomed to dirt on their outsides. Though goodness knows why we should try to keep harm from coming to their eyes. They'll never learn to read in their lives".

The place to combat race prejudice is in the child's first books and social relationships. From the very beginning, the mind of the child must be filled with right concepts. Although *The Story of Little Black Sambo* is sometimes condemned as representing the Negro as stupid and gluttonous, it doesn't seem to have that message for a young person. It is so well known and loved that it needs no comment except to remark that a *Jumbo Sambo* is now available and will delight every child. Two books for the younger reader that are helpful in this field are: *Two Is a Team* by Lorraine and Jerrold Beim (Harcourt, Brace, \$2), and *Call Me Charley* by Jesse Jackson (Harper, \$2).²

A "must" book for juveniles concerned with the Japanese-American problem is *The Moved-Outers* by Florence Crannell Means. The same author has handled the Mexican problem in *Teresita of the Valley*. In this same field, Doris Gates' *The Blue Willow* is helpful.

One of the most distinguished books on the Indian way of life, significant for its beauty of content and format, is Ann Nolan Clark's *In My Mother's House*. Indispensable for the Catholic child is a new book concerned with the vision and miracle of Our Lady of Guadalupe, *Our Lady and the Aztec* by Josephine H. O'Neill (St. Anthony Guild, \$1). It is the strange and tender spiritual adventure of Juan Diego, the humble Aztec who was

2. Comments on individual books concerned with the Negro problem may be taken from article in *Catholic School Journal*, October, 1944.

so favored by heaven four hundred years ago.

The Hundred Dresses by Eleanor Estes and Louis Slobodkin (Harcourt, \$2.50) is an indispensable book in every Christian classroom. It is the tender story of a little Polish girl who wore the same faded blue dress to school every day, but who insisted that she had a hundred dresses at home. Her name, Wanda Petronski, is peculiar to her little friends. Every classroom has a "Wanda" and here is a powerful story for young people who do not realize that true worth is not concerned with clothes.

The librarian has an unlimited opportunity in the direction of reading to fill a recreational need. Serious consideration should be given to interest students in nature books. In lamenting the neglect of this study in schools, Father Leen has this to say: "The neglect of nature study is much to be deplored. Boys grow up in the midst of the beauties of nature and never observe them. The love and study and contemplation of the fair forms and colours that God pours forth about them with a lavish hand, would give them constant interest and enjoyment. . . . The great evil of our days, the evil which is the root of many others, is that men and women have lost the art of finding joy and the resources of life in what is at their door. They are not trained to find satisfaction in the simple and wonderful things that God has made for their delight. They have eyes and they do not see what is made to gladden the eye and elevate the soul. They can neither enjoy themselves sanely nor entertain themselves in a natural way. For joy they can but substitute dissipation and distraction. They know not how to be still. They rush from the natural delights and pleasures which God offers them in nature,

to the artificial and canned entertainment prepared for them by cynical and commercial minded men. And to the education they have received must be assigned the fault. The sclerosis of the human soul which has resulted from this neglect is something which disturbs all those who direct youth, and especially should it disturb those who direct the reading of youth".³

It is impossible in this paper to go into specific recommendations of books in this field, but suffice it to remark that there are hundreds of them available. Lippincott, Random House, Macmillan are a few of the publishers who have magnificent books in this field.

Anything that can be done to provide wholesome recreation for young people, to keep them away from movies and other harmful recreation is much to be encouraged. An unlimited opportunity is offered to the librarian here, too, in the field of craft books. The normal child can be interested in working with his hands, and with the splendid books available, he can spend long and happy hours in creating objects of beauty.

Mention should be made, also, of the really invaluable aid being offered in providing Victrola records for children. Both the Decca series and the Bluebird series have records of the classics at a very reasonable price. Parents as well as children will enjoy the humor of such records as *The Five Hundred Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins* by Dr. Seuss, to say nothing of the delightful *Ferdinand* by Munro Leaf.

Any paper on Catholic social attitudes and juvenile literature would have to give some attention to "Bibliotherapy". In the excellent work, *Character Formation*

(Continued on page 218)

3. Op. cit., p. 139ff.

Public Library-Parochial School Co-operation

By MARY KIELY, Editor

Pro Parvulis Book Club, New York, N. Y.

Recently, in looking over some statistics in the files of our *Herald* subscriptions here at Pro Parvulis Book Club, in the Empire State Building, New York, I found myself so interested in facts that turned up in the course of my perusal of the records, I forthwith decided to pass them along for any librarians, public or private, who may also be interested.

I became aware, handling these records, of the great number of public libraries in the United States, actively subscribing to the *Herald*. Small libraries, county libraries, middle-sized libraries, and the very large libraries—from the Atlantic to the midwest, to the south and far west, they unrolled right to the Pacific. I had never fully realized before how intense must be the interest of the American Public Library, as a library, in developing its own reading efforts and book selection efforts for parochial school children, along the lines the parochial school itself uses, and how eager they are to serve Catholic children in their book needs with a special attention and service. I think it is good for us to know this.

What seemed to me most provocative of thought, however, was the fact that our oldest and most distinguished public library Children's Rooms are subscribing to the *Herald*. These are the libraries that have broken the ground, have done the hard, pioneer work in the children's book field, their long years of past accom-

plishment behind them; the libraries that carry memories of many a battle for intellectual and spiritual progress fought and won in the years that are gone. I made notes, and prepared a little notation for the readers of the *Catholic Library World* because I am sure they will also feel a deep, professional interest in the facts.

First, there are the famous old Children's Rooms of the Boston Public Library, and the Providence Public Library; the newer but no less famous Children's Room of the Chicago Public Library, and that really splendid Children's Room in the Saint Louis Public Library. Then, there is the Cincinnati Public Library and the one in Cleveland, and in Detroit, and away out on the coast, are the great Los Angeles Public Library, the one in Seattle and the beautiful patio-room for children in the Pasadena Public Library.

It is rather a wonderful thing to think that despite age and the complacency that does creep in to venerable institutions, our American public libraries have not gone over to the Phillistines, despite prestige and wealth and accumulation of involved problems and the weight of administration detail. They would seem to be reaching out with as fresh an eagerness today to serve where and how they may, as in the days of their untried youth.

We see this in the ways they utilize new aids that come along for new prob-

lems, and in our own small niche in *Pro Parvulis*, we realize it, of course, by seeing it from the viewpoint of the thing that comes closest to us. That is the *Herald*; and these statistics on the desk before me tell me they are using the *Herald* not only for a reference tool and buying guide in the main library Children's Rooms, but putting it out to work, as one might say. For they put it in the networks of branch libraries—thirty-two city wide in Chicago for instance, thirty-four throughout the Long Island branches of the Queensborough New York Public Library, and in Cleveland in the Juvenile Loan Department (which means school loan collections) and in Washington in the University of Washington Library School, and in Chicago in the Public Library Training Class for new librarians, and in the Editorial Offices of the *Book List*, the official publication of the American Library Association.

Now what does all this specifically mean to you, the reader of the *Catholic Library World*; to you, the librarian or teacher in a parochial school? It does not mean merely that public libraries are subscribing to the *Pro Parvulis Herald*. That is beside the main point I am trying to make here. We all know that they do, and that so, too, do Catholic libraries and library schools and colleges and seminaries who are not doing actual work with children so much as critical work about children's interests, a group who want critiques rather more needfully than actual books. But the point I want to make is that it is a really important thing for our Catholic teachers and parochial schools to know that the public library is trying to help them and their children by reaching out to consult and use for them their own tools. This is encouraging and

it is a big inspiration to a busy nun, a tired teacher. Now why do I say this? For this reason.

It means that the children's librarian today in the public library of the city or town or county is giving a special attention to the immense army of parochial school children in this way: She asks herself, before making a decision on a title, the following little questionnaire:

- 1—Is there a good reason that I should be aware of, why this title might offend those in charge of my local parochial school if it is offered to their pupils with special recommendation? It seems a pretty good addition to our shelves, but is it inadvisable for that group of youngsters? Should I make a mental note of that?
- 2—Is this well written title, one that is worth purchasing, because although it would merit a slow use with the public school children, it will receive active use and call from my parochial school?
- 3—An excellent book I have under consideration is bound to be generally popular. Should I anticipate also an extra demand from the Catholic children due to some condition of text or authorship I am unaware of, and hence buy extra copies before my budget is spent?

Of course, the children's librarian who asks herself these questions over her order blanks and pencil needs a guide. But the exciting thing today is that equally she wants this guide. A good children's librarian dreads being short of sufficient stock to meet a long and legitimate demand, for this can create harrowing problems of dismay and unrest in her children's room. She enjoys being of service

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News and Notes

FINAL PROGRAM OF THE ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE

Theme:

*The Catholic Library Association
in the Atomic Age*

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Chairman: Eleanora A. Baer, Fontbonne College. *General Business:* Mother M. Dowling, R.S.C.J., Maryville College; Dr. William A. FitzGerald, St. Louis University School of Medicine; Brother James McMenemy, S.M., South Side Catholic High School. *Mass:* Reverend Hugh McKemie, S.J., St. Louis University; Reverend Raymond Spitzer, C.S.S.R., St. Joseph's College, Kirkwood. *Publicity:* Sister Anne Catherine, C.S.J., St. Joseph's Motherhouse; Sister Ligouri, C.S.J., St. Anthony's High School; Reverend Aloysius F. Wilmes, St. Liborius Parish. *Membership:* Brother J. Sylvester, F.S.C., Christian Brothers College; Sister Lioba, S.S.N.D., Rosati-Kain High School. *Lodging and Hospitality:* Brother Clarence Saunders, S.M., McBride High School; Sister Eleanor, C.C.V.I., Incarnate Word Academy; Miss Marie Thomas, Saint Louis University Public Library Branch; Sister Clotaire, S.L., Webster College, Webster Groves.

MASS

The Twentieth Annual Conference will proceed with a *Missa Cantata* at the University Church, St. Louis University, Lindell and Grand Boulevard, April 24, 9:15 A. M. Celebrant: Reverend Charles F. Kruger, S.J., University Librarian, St. Louis University.

GENERAL SESSIONS

Note: All sessions will be held at the Kiel Auditorium unless otherwise noted.

First General Session, Tuesday, April 23, 9:30-11:30 A. M., Assembly Room, Hall No. 2.

Presiding: Dr. William A. FitzGerald, St. Louis University School of Medicine Library, St. Louis, Missouri. *Secretary,* Sister Mary Pauline, Ad. P.P.S., St. Teresa Academy, East St. Louis, Illinois.

Address of Welcome: Rev. Paul C. Reinert, S. J., Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, St. Louis University.

Presidential Address. Mr. Richard James Hurley, Divisional Librarian in Education, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska.

A Member Looks at the Catholic Library Association. Reverend William J. Gibbons, S.J., Associate Editor of *America*.

A College President Views the Library. Mother Odéide Mouton, R.S.C.J., President, Maryville College, St. Louis.

New Service to Readers. Sister M. Petrona, Ad. PP.S., Assistant Librarian, Sacred Heart Junior College, Wichita, Kansas.

Appointment of Resolutions Committee.

Luncheon, Thursday, April 25, 12:30 P. M., De Soto Hotel, 11th and Locust Streets.

Chairman: Brother A. Thomas, F.S.C., Vice-President of The Catholic Library Association, Director of Libraries, Manhattan College, New York City.

Some Observations of Reading Studies in the St. Louis Public Library. Mr. Charles H. Compton, Librarian, St. Louis Public Library.

Missions and Libraries. Reverend Walter J. Coleman, M.M., Librarian, Maryknoll, New York.

Religious Book Week. Virgil L. Border, National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Second General Session, Thursday, April 25, 2:30-4:30 P. M. Assembly Room, Hall No. 2.

Presiding: Richard James Hurley. *Secretary,* Miss Dorothy E. Lynn, University of Scranton, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

A Better Catholic Book Week for All. Brother J. Sylvester, F.S.C., Librarian, Christian Brothers College, St. Louis.

Unearthing Current Print. Mr. Laurence A. Leavey, Editor of *The Catholic Periodical Index*, New York City.

Readers of the Future. Sister M. Madeleva, President, Saint Mary's Col-

lege, Notre Dame, Holy Cross, Indiana.

Business Session: Reports of the Executive Council, Secretary - Treasurer, Editor of *Catholic Periodical Index*, Committee and Unit Chairmen.

ROUND TABLES

ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, April 23, 2:00 P. M.

Chairman: Brother A. Thomas, F.S.C., Vice-President of the Catholic Library Association, Director of Libraries, Manhattan College, New York City.

Attended by Executive Council, Committee Chairmen and Chairmen of Units.

Dinner Meeting: Tuesday, April 23, 6:30 P. M., De Soto Hotel, 11th and Locust Streets.

Attended by Executive Council and Local St. Louis Unit Officers and Committee on Arrangements.

CATALOGING AND CLASSIFICATION

Wednesday, April 24, 2:00-4:00 P. M. Committee Room 3A.

Chairman: Sister Mary Luella, O.P., Department of Library Science, Rosary College, River Forest, Illinois. *Secretary:* Sister Mary Stephen, C.C.V.I., Incarnate Word College Library, San Antonio, Texas.

Vatican Norms in English Translation Will Implement A.L.A. Code. Reverend Edward Roche, Feehan Memorial Library, St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Illinois.

Cataloging Trends at the Library of Congress and Their Implications for Libraries. Reverend Redmond Burke, C.S.V., Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

Recent Developments in Classification.

Sister M. Andre, O.S.F., Alverno Teachers College Library, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

COLLEGE LIBRARIES

Wednesday, April 24, 10:30 A. M.-12:30 P. M., Committee Room 3A.

Chairman: Reverend James J. Kortendick, S.S., Reference Librarian, Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C. Secretary: Sister Marie Cecilia, C.S.J., Library School, College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Reference Service: *Trends in the Reference Function of the College Library.* Reverend Fintan R. Shoniker, O.S.B., St. Vincent College, Latrobe, Pennsylvania.

Book Selection: *Buried Treasures.* Sister M. Florence, O.S.B., Mount St. Scholastica College, Atchison, Kansas.

Circulation Service: *Charging for Profit.* Reverend Ambrose Burke, T.O.R., St. Francis College, Loretto, Pennsylvania.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARIES¹

Wednesday, April 24, 2:00-4:00 P. M., Committee Room 3B

Chairman: Sister M. Dorothea, S.S.N.D., Notre Dame Junior College, St. Louis. Secretary: Sister M. Cornelia, S.L., Loretto Academy, St. Louis.

There Are Good Comics. Reverend Robert Southard, S.J., Librarian, Rockhurst College, Kansas City, Missouri.

What Magazines Shall We Give Our Children? Sister Constantius, Academy of Our Lady, Peoria, Illinois.

1. Because of a conflict with the N.C.E.A. program, just received as we go to press, this meeting is subject to alteration.

HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Wednesday, April 24, 10:30 A. M.-12:30 P. M., Committee Room 3B.

Theme: *Stimulating the Use of the Library.*

Chairman: Sister M. Ildephonse, S.S.N.D., Librarian, Messmer High School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Secretary: Sister Josepha, O.S.F., Holy Family College, Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

Ways and Means of Encouraging Recreational Reading. Sister Mary Alonza, S.S.N.D., Good Counsel Academy, Mankato, Minnesota.

How the Librarian Does It. Brother Clarence A. Saunders, S.M., McBride High School, St. Louis.

What Can the Teacher Do? Reverend Stanley Witkowiak, Principal, St. Catherine's High School, Racine, Wisconsin.

HOSPITAL LIBRARIES

Wednesday, April 24, 2:00-4:00 P. M., Committee Room 3C.

Chairman: Dr. William A. FitzGerald, Librarian, St. Louis University School of Medicine. Secretary: Miss Norma Haredlein, St. Vincent's Sanitarium, Wellston, Missouri.

Objectives of Hospital Library Service. Dr. William A. FitzGerald.

Greetings from the Catholic Hospital Association. Mr. Ray Kneifl, Executive Secretary, Catholic Hospital Association of the United States and Canada.

Standards for Hospital Libraries and Librarians.

Personnel: Sister Edgar, R.S.M., St. John's Hospital, St. Louis.

Book Collection: Eileen Crist, DePaul Hospital, St. Louis.

Budget: Sister M. Susanne, S.S.M., St. Mary's Hospital, Clayton, Missouri.

Integrated Relationships Between Libraries for Patients, Nurses, Doctors and Other Personnel.

Open discussion led by Chairman.

LIBRARY SERVICE TO CATHOLIC READERS

Wednesday, April 24, 10:30 A. M.-12:30 P. M., Committee Room 3C.

Chairman: Miss Lucy Murphy, Buffalo Public Library, Buffalo, New York.
Secretary: Miss Marie Thomas, St. Louis Public Library Branch, St. Louis, Missouri.

Theme:

Adult Education and the Catholic Reader

Catholicism in Adult Education. Reverend Herbert O'H. Walker, S.J., Queen's Work, St. Louis.

Parish Libraries and Adult Education. Reverend Aloysius F. Wilmes, St. Liborius Parish, St. Louis.

The Veteran Via the Public Library. Miss Margery Dowd, Chief of the Readers' Advisory Service; Miss Marie Thomas, St. Louis University Public Library Branch; Miss Regina Woltering, Library Assistant, Reference Department, St. Louis, Public Library.

SEMINARY LIBRARIES

Wednesday, April 24, 8:00 P. M. Main Reading Room, St. Louis University Library, 221 N. Grand Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri.

Chairman: Reverend Harry C. Koenig, Librarian, Feehan Memorial Library, St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Illinois. Secretary: Reverend Gilbert C. Peterson, S.J., Librarian, St. Mary's College, St. Mary's Kansas. *One Hundred New Books for a Semi-*

nary Library. Reverend Ambrose U. Hayden, Librarian, St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Periodicals in a Seminary Library. Reverend Harry C. Koenig.

The Roman Index of Forbidden Books. Reverend Redmond Burke, C.S.V., Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 23, 8:00 P. M. Meeting.

Wednesday, April 24, 6:30 P. M.

Dinner Meeting, De Soto Hotel, 11th and Locust Streets.

Thursday, April 25, 10:00 A. M. to 12:00 M.

These are closed sessions in general.

However, the Executive Council will be glad to arrange interviews with persons or groups who wish to discuss basic questions of policy or conduct of C.L.A. affairs. Appointments may be arranged through the Secretary-Treasurer.

Meetings of the Executive Council:

Tuesday, April 23, 2:00 P. M. and 8:00 P. M.; Wednesday, April 24, 6:30 P. M., Thursday, April 25, 10:00 A. M.

TEA

Wednesday, April 24, 4:30-6:00 P. M.

The members of the Greater St. Louis Unit of the Catholic Library Association will sponsor an informal tea for the visiting C.L.A. members and other guests. It will be conducted at the St. Louis Public Library, 14th and Olive Streets.

TOUR OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

Friday, April 26, 9:00 A. M.-12 M.

A tour has been arranged for librarians to visit outstanding points of interest in the Greater St. Louis area.

Final Schedule for the Saint Louis Conference

All Meetings Will Be Held at the Kiel Auditorium Unless
Otherwise Noted¹

	Tuesday April 23	Wednesday April 24	Thursday April 25
9:30 A.M.	FIRST GENERAL SESSION (Assembly Room, Hall No. 2)	Missa Cantata 9:15 (University Church, St. Louis University)	
10:30 A.M.		Round Tables College Libraries (Committee Room 3A) High School Libraries (Committee Room 3B) Library Service (Committee Room 3C)	Executive Council Meeting 10:00 A. M.
12:30 P. M.			Luncheon (De Soto Hotel)
2:00 P.M.	Advisory Board Meeting ²	Round Tables Cataloging and Classification (Committee Room 3A) Elementary School Libraries (Committee Room 3B) Hospital Libraries (Committee Room 3C)	
2:30 P.M.			SECOND GENERAL SESSION (Assembly Room, Hall No. 2) Includes Business Meeting
6:30 P.M.	Dinner Meeting ³ (De Soto Hotel)	Executive Council Dinner (De Soto Hotel)	
8:00 P.M.	Executive Council Meeting	Seminary Round Table (Library, St. Louis U.)	

1. C.L.A. members and guests will be entertained by the Greater St. Louis Unit at an informal Tea, Wednesday, April 24, 4:30 P. M., at the St. Louis Public Library, 14th and Olive Streets.

Tour of Greater St. Louis, Friday, April 26, 9:00 A. M.-12 M.

2. Open to all committee and round table chairmen, officers of units and the Executive Council.

3. Attended by Executive Council, Local St. Louis Unit Officers, and Committee on Arrangements.

HOTEL HEADQUARTERS

Conference headquarters will be at the De Soto Hotel. The President and Executive Secretary will be available for conferences throughout the convention by appointment.

ERRATUM

The Registration fee for the C.L.A. Conference in St. Louis will be \$1.50 instead of \$1.00 as noted in the March issue.

MID-SOUTH UNIT

The Mid-South Regional Unit held its fifth annual meeting at St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing, Memphis, Tennessee, March 25. Sister M. Roberta, O.P., retiring chairman, presided. Delegates from Tennessee, Arkansas, and Kentucky were present for the half-day session which opened the Executive Meeting at one o'clock.

Reverend William Barclay, Diocesan Superintendent of Schools, delivered the address of welcome.

The following papers were presented: "The Catholic Teacher's Responsibility for Reading Guidance", Sister Mary Clementia, O.P., St. Agnes Academy, Memphis; "Reading Trends of High School Boys", Sister Mary Gabriel, R.S.M., Catholic High School, Memphis; "Introducing Catholic Literature to High School Students", Brother George, Christian Brothers College, Memphis; "An Appreciation of *The Following of Christ*", Sister M. Nazarius, S.C.N., Sacred Heart High School, Memphis.

The afternoon session was a business meeting. Future projects of the Unit were discussed: establishment of a Catholic lending library and bookstore in Memphis; the organization of an Elementary Library Section in the Unit; the value

of a bookmobile as a means of providing Catholic reading for children in the rural districts. Practical contributions to the discussion were made by, Mother M. Ignacio, Immaculate Mother Academy, Nashville, and Reverend Remy Stiglitz, O.F.M., Assistant Pastor of St. Mary's Church, Memphis. Mrs. Averil Randall, Head of Children's Department of Coeserr Library, Memphis, discussed a wider and more consistent use of the public library by Catholic school children.

BROOKLYN-LONG ISLAND

"School Libraries for Today and Tomorrow" was the subject of a special meeting of the Brooklyn-Long Island Unit held at the Dominican Commercial High School, Jamaica, New York, February 23. Based on a recent report of the American Library Association, the topic was presented by two members of the Unit. Sister Mary Lothaire, S.S.N.D., St. Saviour High School, Brooklyn, summarized the material of the report which stresses the need of meaningful reading experience for every boy and girl in our elementary and high schools, and indicates the role of the library, the librarian, the teaching staff and the principal in providing this experience.

Brother Cecilian Antony, F.S.C., Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School, Brooklyn, described the situation in our own schools and suggested the steps to be taken to achieve the desired place for the library in the school program.

The Constitution Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. William Gillard, St. John's University, presented the proposed Constitution and By-Laws for approval. Voting was by mail and the final returns show the membership in favor of the Constitution as drawn up by the Committee.

Mr. Thomas V. Reiners, Chairman of the Unit, presided at the meeting.

SUMMER LIBRARY CONFERENCE

Nazareth College and Nazareth Normal School of Rochester, New York, conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph, announce a Summer Library Conference to be held July 8 to 19. The primary purpose of the conference is to give to principals, librarians, and teachers in the parochial schools of the diocese, intensive training in the techniques of elementary school library organization and operation.

The efficient and economic management of the school library will be stressed as well as the importance of the library in elementary school education as the foundation for scholarship and culture. The financing of the elementary school library, selection of books, the co-ordination of the library with classroom work, and public library facilities will be considered.

A feature of the conference will be the panel discussion, led by Miss Helen Cashman, Librarian of Charlotte High School, on the problems connected with a school library. Experts in various phases of library work will participate.

Miss Anna Clark Kennedy and Mrs. R. E. Babcock, Supervisors of School Libraries of the State of New York, will assist in the conduct of the conference. Also included on the program will be several staff members of the Rochester Public Library: Dr. John A. Lowe, Director, Miss Julia Sauer, Head of the Department of Work with Children, and Miss Julia Ruth Armstrong, Supervisor of Branches. Outstanding school librarians and members of the faculty of several library schools will also participate. Reverend Andrew L. Bouwhuis, S.J., Librarian

of Canisius College Library, Buffalo, New York, and Miss Phyllis Fenner, an outstanding authority and author of several books on libraries and books for children, will give the benefit of their broad experiences in the library field to the members of the conference.

Visits to libraries in Rochester, including Nazareth Normal School and Nazareth College Libraries, will be a part of the regular program.

Registration will be limited to seventy-five.

RELIGIOUS BOOK WEEK

The fourth annual observance of *Religious Book Week* will be held May 5-12, 1946. This week was established in 1942 by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, to mark the date, May 10, 1933, when the Nazis threw to the flames those books which, either because of authorship or content, were repugnant to their philosophy.

One of the outstanding features of *Religious Book Week* observance is the publication of *The Religious Book List*, a selection of Jewish, Catholic, Protestant and Good Will Books, selected by a committee of clergymen, educators, authors and librarians who voluntarily undertake this task, because of their belief in the importance of this project. Each section includes two parts: a list for adults and a list for children.

The Catholic books for adults were chosen by Dr. William A. FitzGerald, Librarian, St. Louis University School of Medicine; Miss Catherine M. Neale, Secretary, Board of Governors, Gallery of Living Catholic Authors; and Brother David Martin, C.S.C., Librarian, University of Portland, Portland, Oregon. The children's Catholic book list was selected

by Reverend Joseph Cantillon, S.J., Librarian, Woodstock College, Woodstock, Maryland; Mrs. R. Harris Cooper, Governor, Maryland Chapter of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae; and Timothy J. Dunn, associate of the Remington-Putnam Bookstores, Baltimore, Maryland.

A limited number of copies of the Religious Book List, a list of suggestions and materials for the observance of Religious Book Week are available upon request. Address: Mrs. William L. Duffy, Director, Religious Book Week, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y.

RURAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

A bill to extend rural public library service for some of the millions now without it was introduced into Congress on March 12, by Representative Emily Taft Douglas of Illinois and Senator Lister Hill of Alabama. Under terms of the bill, the United States government would provide funds up to \$15,000,000 for demonstration over a four year period of types of service which are suited to rural areas.

The program would operate through state library agencies which would submit to the United States Commissioner of Education, plans suited to local conditions. The bill eliminates federal control as soon as States submit plans which meet with specifications included in the bill.

The bill, HR.5742 and S.1920 was referred to the Education Committee of the House and the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S BOOK CLUB

The Catholic Children's Book Club, organized shortly before Christmas by the America Press, New York, has passed the

1500 mark in its memberships, it was announced this week.

Soon after the CCBC was organized, it was found necessary to add a Picture Book group to accommodate the many demands for books for children, six to eight years of age. The Club now provides books for children six to sixteen years of age, in four different classifications.

The April selections of the CCBC are: Group P: *Harriet*, by Charles McKinley, Jr. Illustrated by William Pene du Bois. Viking Press.

Group A: *The Burro of Barnagat Road*, by Delia Goetz. Illustrated by Hilda von Stockum. Harcourt, Brace.

Group B: *Keep My Flag Flying: Daniel Webster*, by Mary Tarver Carroll. Longmans, Green.

Group C: *Fair is the Morning*, by Loula Grace Erdman. Longmans, Green.

THE CATHOLIC CHILD AND HIS READING

(Continued from page 203)

set up false standards of living, and reduce literary taste to a disheartening level. Parents must remember, however, that children tend to follow the family patterns. If the house is strewn with the gay and superficially entertaining, but utterly ephemeral pictorial magazines that so greedily eat up limited reading time, the children will not have the patience or the desire to read books unless they are short and lavishly illustrated. If adult reading in the household tends to the currently popular books which depend for interest upon over-sophistication, vulgarity, and profanity, there is little use in expecting the children to do spiritual reading. "What a man reads, that he is," someone has said, and there is con-

siderable truth in the statement. A generous library of well-chosen books, enough leisure to enjoy them, a wholesome family life in which the elders show by example that the reading of good literature is a satisfying leisure time pursuit—these are some of the factors which contribute to the development of the child's moral and intellectual life. All parents should regard the spiritual welfare of their children as a grave responsibility; Catholic parents are bound in conscience to do so. A reform in family living habits is long overdue. Let Catholic parents set the example.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL PRINCIPLES IN JUVENILE LITERATURE

(Continued from page 207)

Through Books: A Bibliography, an application of bibliotherapy to the behaviour problems of childhood, prepared under the direction of Doctor Rudolph Allers at the Catholic University of America, librarians have an important tool for this type of directed reading. Another helpful book in this same field is an *Invitation to Read: The Use of the Book in Child Guidance*. (A List of Titles recommended by the Mayor's Committee for the Selection of Suitable Books for Children in the Courts, Municipal Reference Library, 1941, New York, 25c).

When the Catholic librarian clearly comprehends her responsibility in directing the reading of those with whom she comes in contact, so that the correct Catholic attitudes can be formed in the social field, she may feel that she is contributing her share toward the making of a better world. And then she may realize in eternity, if not in time, the truth of the words of Father Vann: "But you, for your part, will be no longer in the shadow but in the glory of the Light inaccessible;

you will be in the City that is yours because you helped to build it; you will see Him at last as He is, and be wholly with Him; and you will have no more any mourning or weeping or any other sorrow, for all these former things will have been transmuted into happiness and peace, and you will walk with Him—together with all those you have helped to bring to Him, even until the end of the world—you will walk with Him in happiness forever, in the cool of the eternal evening."⁴

PUBLIC LIBRARY-PAROCHIAL SCHOOL CO-OPERATION

(Continued from page 209)

to children, making available to them the wonder of books and literature, for if she did not she would be handling patents in the patent department, or research in the Reference Room, or adult readers at the Call Desk. The girl who chooses to work with children just wants the sheer fun of getting the right books to the right kids.

And so I have written this short script hastily, out of a few hours handling of facts and figures, because the familiar roster of libraries looked up at me from the sheets on the desk, and I saw them not as so many names, but as the individuals I know them to be, north to south across this great land. I cannot help, naturally, being glad and a little proud, that the *Herald* is their help and guide. But mostly, I am sure, it is our parochial school nuns and librarians who will like to know what I have written here. For it is, after all, so nice, and so American, to find that when one is working toward a goal of the things of the spirit, one is not working alone, but shoulder to shoulder with ever so many others. With

4. Vann, Gerald, O.P. *The Heart of Man*. Sheed & Ward. p. 152.

others who seem remote perhaps, or even strangers. But who, it turns out, are not strangers but our very good and friendly friends!

CATHOLIC COMMERCIAL PUBLISHING IN THE U. S.

(Continued from page 200)

The foregoing paragraphs have emphasized the numerical preponderance of the category Religion and Theology in the publishing programs of the Catholic houses. Since this field comprised such a large percentage of the activity of these firms, and since one may reasonably presume—although no statistics are readily available to substantiate the assumption—that Catholic publishers handle a large portion of the Catholic literature produced in this field, it seemed to warrant more detailed consideration. This vast subject has many facets, and its literature ranges from the profound discussion of the attributes of God to the most effective methods of administering parochial property. A closer analysis of the output in Religion and Theology revealed the relative emphasis placed upon its various subdivisions. To accomplish this analysis the 1,073 titles issued in this field by the Catholic publishers were classified according to the Lynn scheme.⁷

Arranged in a descending order on the basis of title frequency the several subdivisions of Religion and Theology are shown in Table 4 (p. 200).

7. Jeannette (Murphy) Lynn (comp.), *An Alternative Classification for Catholic Books, a Scheme for Catholic Theology, Canon Law, and Church History; To Be Used with the Dewey Decimal, Classification Décimale, or Library of Congress Classifications* (Milwaukee: The Bruce Publishing Co.; Chicago, The American Library Association, 1937).

From this enumeration it is evident that the first three subdivisions, Religious Biography, Doctrinal Theology, and Devotional Literature, comprised approximately one-half, and the first six subdivisions comprised almost four-fifths of all the titles in Religion and Theology produced by the Catholic publishers. The remaining subdivisions, Church History, Fundamental Theology and Apologetics, Scripture, Homiletics, Pastoral Theology, Moral Theology, Canon Law, Theology in General, Mystic Theology, and Christian Literature, account for approximately one-fifth of the publications in this diversified field. That Religious Biography surpassed all the other subdivisions should not be surprising in view of the fact that the past two decades have been a great era of biography writing and reading.

The prominence of each subdivision of Table 4 in the publishing programs of the individual Catholic houses may be summarized as follows: Benziger, Bruce, Herder, Kenedy, and Sheed and Ward all emphasized Religious Biography. Devotional Literature was equally prominent in the publishing program of Benziger, Bruce, and Kenedy. Herder surpassed all other publishers in the field of Doctrinal Theology, a subject which received emphasis also on the part of Benziger, Bruce, Kenedy, and Sheed and Ward. Also prominent among the fields of emphasis were Catechetics by Bruce and St. Anthony Guild; Liturgy by Benziger and Bruce; Ascetic Theology by Herder and Benziger; Church History by Bruce and Herder; Apologetics by Sheed and Ward; and Catechetics by St. Anthony Guild.

(To be continued)

Book Reviews

Britannica Jr.; published with the advice and consultation of the faculties of the University of Chicago and the University Laboratory School; an encyclopedia for boys and girls prepared under the supervision of the editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1945. 12v. red library binding, \$79.90; school and library \$63.90; blue craftex \$69.90.

The purchase of an encyclopedia requires all the skill of book selection because it usually involves an outlay of from sixty to a hundred sixty dollars, comprises one of the most important tools in a school library (or a home) and has to be judged against keen competition. Of the three "easy" encyclopedias for school and home, *Compton's*, *The World Book* and *Britannica Jr.*, the last has received a left-hand publicity, relegated by *Subscription Books Bulletin* to a Cinderella status. This adds to the selector's problem. We can, however, state a definite set of criteria and apply them to the *Britannica Jr.* It then remains for the individual librarian or parent to draw his own conclusions.

Mudge, Shores and Hutchins, three authorities in the field of reference, supply us with our ammunition. How reliable is the book? What is its authority; what of accuracy, up-to-dateness, completeness, balance, proportion, organization and consistency? What is its mechanical arrangement and format? What is its color, the type of paper, the legibility of print and pictures, the arrangement of material on the page? What of its publisher, editor, contributors? Nora Beust, Specialist in School Libraries for the U. S. Office of Education, suggests a simple device of examining the names of specialists in the field we know best; studying an article describing a process or event with which we have had personal experience, examining maps for recent dams, parks, boundaries; noting the copyright date; examining for religious, political and economic bias. There are a dozen minor points one could easily suggest in a complete analysis of a reference work. Our double handful will suffice for this review.

The dual sponsorship of the Encyclopaedia Britannica and the University of Chicago Advisory Committee assures us of an authoritative backing. Glancing down the list of contributing editors and writers of special articles we find Alice Dalgiesh, Charles J. Finger, Dorothy Lathrop, Cornelia Meigs, Emily Post, Carolyn Snedeker, Vilhjalmar Stefansson, Rabbi Wise, the late William Lyon Phelps and Raymond Ditmars. Catholic articles have been edited by the Very Reverend James M. McDonough, Rector of St. Mary's Seminary, Cleveland, Ohio, and we note that Bishop Bernard J. Sheil of Chicago is a contributor. A special brochure has been issued by the company listing 690 articles of interest to Catholics, 338 exclusively related to the Church. There is a special group of contributors of state and Canadian articles.

In a close checking of certain articles we find some sins of commission and omission but the standard is high and the entire encyclopedia cannot be indicted on such picayune evidence. For instance, the death date of Alexis Carrell is not given; the *Song of Bernadette* is not listed under Werfel; Chesterton is not revealed as a great Catholic writer; six-man football is omitted; the comparative history chart goes only to 1941; a picture of the Johnstown Flood is given under Harrison because he was President at the time. We may wonder why Boccaccio is included and SanMartin, the great South American leader, is left out. Articles are lacking on such important topics as plastics and radar but the atom and television are well treated. The article on aviation, that jet-propelled subject, is up-to-date. But, then, what encyclopedia is 100% perfect for all of our individual tastes!

An examination of the contents reveals monographs and stories in addition to the articles. In the "N-O-P" volume are stories on the *Niebelungenlied*, the fishermen of the Netherlands, the conquest of Peru and destruction of Pompeii. Monographs include navigation, opera, news-

papers, photography, philosophy, printing, painting and petroleum. It seems to this reviewer that special emphasis is given to biographical, historical and geographical material—a social studies slant. Objection has been made to the inclusion of the fiction stories in an encyclopedia, that they are really not stories, that they lack literary style and their suitability for reading aloud is not particularly evident. This treads on the very dangerous ground of the value in research of historical, biographical and regional fiction. Educators today insist on the socialization of factual learning—putting meaning into facts. Fiction is a means to this end. Objection on the grounds of precedent or uniqueness is illogical; and one should read for himself to determine the literary quality and value for reading aloud. There are some articles intended for parents and teachers on child training and education.

To our knowledge none of the usual encyclopedias for home or school is attractively bound, although well bound. *Britannica Jr.* is as attractive as the others although it has a confusing looking spine. The numbers in a straight row at the bottom and the letters in bolder type near the top would be a distinct improvement. One will immediately spot the informative and educational endpapers. Those in the front of the volumes are historical and geographical in nature—the Arctic and Antarctic Regions, exploration of Canada, national resources, capitals and principal cities of the world. The rear endpapers pertain to bird houses, model airplanes, hooked rugs, nature craft and party costumes. The paper is good, the print legible and illustrations clear. There are 4500 pictures, a number in full-color from the Encyclopaedia Britannica Collection of Modern American Paintings. Photographs are used wherever possible instead of the older—if more artistic—methods of drawing and prints. Pictographs are freely used. *In totidem verbis*, the set is attractive.

The arrangement of the volumes is alphabetical with no split letters, each book varying from one to seven letters each. Paging is separate for each volume. An important consideration in buying is the special volumes. Here we have two—Ready Reference and the Study Guide & Atlas. It is commonly known that the Ready Reference volume is a main selling point due to its excellence. Its 492 pages contain 20,000 entries including definitions and pronunciations which give it a dictionary flavor. This volume is also an index to the encyclopedia as it gives volume,

page and column references and cross-references are included. Looking at the Study Guide & Atlas volume we find that the first part consists of three sections dealing with the place of *Britannica Jr.* in modern education, in the home and in the school. More particularly, the first section is a series of lessons on the use of books and libraries, the second is to help parents guide the interests and hobbies of their children and the third is an elaborate subject unit outline for teachers. The second or Atlas part has 81 plates including political, physical and vegetation maps; and fifty-five pages of miscellaneous information.

Beyond these intrinsic and extrinsic elements are two very important considerations. For what clientele is it intended? What of its heritage from Weedon's *Modern Encyclopedia*? The editors claim that graded under the Winnetka Grade Test for text, *Britannica Jr.* proves to be generally more easily understood by young children than any other similar type of children's encyclopedia. Current advertising stresses the elementary school nature of the encyclopedia. What do others say about it? Hart in the 31st edition of his *Comparison of Encyclopedias* gives the age level as 5-13 years with *Compton's* as 7 years upward and *World Book* as 8 years upward. In an earlier edition he placed 100% of the material in *Britannica Jr.* in the elementary grades with 50% for *Compton's* and 40% for the *World Book*. This is supported by a detailed study of the difficulties of children's encyclopedias as reported in the *Elementary School Journal* for March and April, 1945. The author quotes a previous study of Overholser as giving *Britannica Jr.* a grade placement of 9.8; *Compton's* 10.4 and *World Book* 11.5. The findings of the above article are that *Britannica Jr.* is first with the smallest number of uncommon words; first in the use of reading with the least number of different, uncommon words; tied with *Compton's* for median number of words in a sentence; places 0.7 of a grade easier than *Compton's* in median difficulty, and places 1.4 grades easier than *World Book* in median difficulty. The approximate grade level is 9, with 10 for *Compton's* and 11 for the *World Book*. To this the reviewer adds his own experience in using it in elementary schools and for retarded readers in high schools.

One perennial objection to *Britannica Jr.* has been its previous association with Weedon's *Modern Encyclopedia*. In 1932 *Subscription Books Bulletin* (October issue) we read: "The editors have been successful in making their work in-

teresting and useful to children, and its value should not be under-estimated. When but one work of the sort is required, *Compton's* or the *World Book* is the first choice, but where additional material is desired or when cost is of first importance, *Weedon's* deserves careful consideration. **RECOMMENDED.**" Note the emphasis on second choice and cost. We cannot compare unlike things and evidence proves that *Britannica Jr.* is best suited for the elementary grades or ages. The above criticism is, therefore, invalid. As to cost, drawing the information from as late issues of the *Cumulative Book Index* as possible we have the following table:

Britannica Jr. 12v. 4175 pages. \$79.90 buck;
\$63.90 schools; \$69.90 craftex.

Compton's. 15v. 6490 pages. \$79.50 duro;
\$84.50 fabricloth.

World Book. 19v. 9750 pages. \$82-\$92.

Weedon's was not a perfect encyclopedia and the *Subscription Books Bulletin* over a period of years did a good job of pointing out errors and making corrections. On September 1, 1934 the *Britannica Corporation* reissued *Weedon's* with several additional features as *Britannica Jr.* The two are still related, however. The article in *Weedon's* on *Animals* (1932) begins with "There ain't no such annimal" and in *Britannica Jr.* (1945) "There is no such annimal". The use of some especially interesting or important fact in introducing an article instead of the older use of a definition or purely factual statement is also a carry-over but a valuable one. The other flaws are gone with the pre-Atomic Age such as the *Pollyanna* style, lack of literary quality, errors in the *Ready Reference* (Fact-Index). In 1935 the set—*Britannica Jr.*—was still being recommended for supplementary use, the same in 1943 with emphasis on its desirability where a moderately priced encyclopedia is needed. But *Britannica Jr.* has outgrown the *Weedon* clothing and stands on its own twelve spines as the easiest to read and least expensive of the three usually considered children's encyclopedias. It can be and is wholeheartedly recommended to Catholic schools as an "easy" and inexpensive encyclopedia.

Richard J. Hurley,
University of Nebraska

Catalog of reprints in series. Edited by Robert M. Orton. Sixth ed. Wilson, 1945. 176p. \$3.50.

The total number of reprints included in this edition is surprisingly small because many titles have gone out of print and, secondly, because of the tendency of publishers to keep titles at original prices during this wartime period favoring the seller rather than the buyer. Catholic titles are practically non-existent. Cardinal Spellman's *Road to victory* is the only recent title; Chesterton's *Father Brown* stories is one of the few representatives of the older titles. It would seem that the *Barclay* series issued by P. J. Kennedy would merit inclusion. The small library will have little use for this current edition; even larger libraries that have a previous edition can well afford to wait for a later one containing the new titles shortly to be reprinted.

Eugene P. Willging,
University of Scranton,
Scranton, Pennsylvania

Library service to business; its place in the small city. By Marian C. Manley. Chicago, American Library Association, 1946. 72p. \$1.25.

This pamphlet is presented as an introduction to the practical nature of business library service and as a working tool for the more efficient development of that service in the public library.

Practicality is demonstrated in the fact that there is no drastic change to be undertaken in order to extend library service to the business group in the community; only a strengthening of emphasis and a broad approach to the actual needs of the community. The organization and administration follow the general scheme of efficient library service.

As an aid to the librarian, the author outlines the kinds of information in demand in the average community, points to the library's available resources and to additional sources where material may be procured or provided on a co-operative basis. Problems of location, budget, staff adjustment and preparation, details of administration are all considered and simplified with the ease and assurance that comes with successful experience.

The field of published business information is analyzed insofar as it answers actual need, and constructive use of this material is emphasized by anticipating the investigation that will result in specific application to directories, indexes, periodicals, government publications, etc., for the required information.

(Continued on page 224)

New Books

BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS Catholic Book Club—March

VANN, GERALD, O.P. *The divine pity. A study in the social implications of the beatitudes.* Sheed & Ward, 1946. 220p. \$2.50.

In these practical yet profound meditations, the author telescopes the Christian life as progress not in successful accomplishment, but in becoming perfect. The beatitudes are separately considered and the particular virtue to be emulated is correlated with the Gift of the Holy Ghost and with the Sacrament that will nourish and bring that virtue to the perfection of beatitude.

Pro Parvulis Book Club—April

For Girls, 10-14 years

HAYES, MARJORIE. *Green peace.* Lippincott, 1945. 230p. \$2.00.

The happy, growing years of the Boston Branch of the famous family that gave us those international Catholics, Mrs. Winthrop Chanler and Marion Crawford.

For Children under 10 years

CHARITINA, SISTER M., B.V.M. *The adventures of the Redcrosse Knight.* Sheed & Ward, 1945. 109p. \$3.00.

Reviewed in C.L.W., p. 127, January, 1946.

Biography

HAFFERT, JOHN MATHIAS. *The peacemaker who went to war.* Scapular Press, 1945. 212p. \$2.50.

Nuno Alvarez Pereira (1360-1431) was a man of God whose life was led on the battlefield. His were the arms and the leadership that made Portugal a nation. Unspoiled by the corruption and intrigue of court life, early in his youth he chose as his Lady, the Blessed Mother of God. Throughout his life he was devoted to her through her Scapular, her Rosary and her Memorare. After many victories under her banner, he gave up his great wealth and station to become a humble Carmelite brother. Centuries after his death his Lady repeated his message and hers to Portugal and to the world in the apparitions at Fatima—the scene of many of Nuno's battles. Three months after the last of these apparitions, Pope Benedict declared Nuno among the ranks of the Blessed.

The author was a leader in the drive to supply our service men with Scapulars. His book is an appeal for devotion to Our Blessed Mother, particularly the devotion of the Scapular.

Richard J. Neu, S.J.

SCHIMBERG, ALBERT P. *The great friend: Frederick Ozanam.* Bruce, 1946. 344p. \$2.50.

During the troubled early decades of the nineteenth century in France, Frederick Ozanam was a leader of Catholic thought and action. As a young man he had gone through a severe period of doubts. Once these were overcome, he devoted himself to the defense of truth against the materialistic, rationalistic and gallican doctrine which were then prevalent in intellectual circles. Professor, lecturer and writer, he was eminent in the fields of Law, History, Literature and Sociology. His social doctrine, which seemed too liberal even to his Catholic contemporaries, foreshadowed that of Leo XIII. A man of action as well as a thinker, Ozanam was the devoted servant of Christ's poor. Gathering about him kindred souls, he was the prime mover of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

This popular biography, which commemorates the centenary of the first Conference of Vincentians in this country, should be recommended to Catholic college students.

Richard J. Neu, S.J.

Literature

THE KENYON CRITICS. *Gerard Manley Hopkins.* New Directions Books, Norfolk, Conn., 1944. 144p. \$1.50.

A collection of essays on different aspects of Hopkins' work together with a biographical sketch. The Kenyon critics present material for a better understanding of the complex Hopkins as an artist and as a man. Austin Warren's biographical note is penetrating and quite satisfactory in many respects, touching upon points hitherto unemphasized. The same critic makes an historical study of the poet's development and concludes that Hopkins' mind was "first aesthetic, then technical". Other studies of the poet are: his imagery by Herbert Marshall McLuhan, his rhythm by Harold Whitehall, his language by Josephine Miles, his sanctity by Robert Lowell, the typical Victorian by Arthur Mizener, a Victorian of surpassing vigour because of religious interests by F. R. Leavis.

The book with its brief bibliography provides stimulating reading for a fuller appreciation

of the most deeply religious poet of our language.

A. J. Miller, S.J.

Religion

CONRAD, SIMON, O.F.M. *Master and Model*. Newman Book Shop, 1946. 123p. \$1.50.

These essays are well worth the reprinting from *The Catholic Home Journal*. Simply they portray Our Lord in various occupations. Sentimentality and triteness jar the reader here and there; yet these little essays could stimulate the most profound meditation.

Sister Mary David, S.S.N.D.

MUELLER, F. J. *They knew Christ*. Bruce, 1946. xii, 210p. \$2.00.

A series of sketches of New Testament personalities, in which the author tries to bring to life a few of the various persons mentioned in the Gospel, or associated in the spreading of the Gospel. Much of the detail is imaginary, but the resulting personality is the more real for that. Not only the saints, but the sinners as well are treated. Good spiritual reading.

Charles Denecke, S.J.

SANTAYANA, GEORGE. *The idea of Christ in the Gospels*. Scribner's, 1946. 266p. \$2.75.

Briefly, the content of this book may be summarized in the author's statement: "Facts, real physical persons or events, are of no religious importance except as the imagination may be stimulated by them and may clothe them with a spiritual meaning" (p. 59). All religious truths are but symbols. Hence the "legend" of Christ is of some religious importance in so far as it may stimulate us in our modern era to deeper feelings of association with God. The legend began in the minds of the Apostles, who sentimentally erected the historical Christ into a divine Person and attached to Him miracles, parables, etc. John and Paul worked out a theology. The "legend" is true because it was the result of a spontaneous inspiration, answering the psychological demands of their natures. The book is written in that snobbish condescension toward the Person of Christ and historical scholarship that becomes, for the blurb-writer, "a reverent and profound approach".

Charles Denecke, S.J.

Sociology

DE LA BEDOYERE, MICHAEL. *No dreamers weak*. Bruce, 1945. 68p. \$2.00.

The third in a series in which the author applies Christian principles to the solution of world problems. The present study is concerned with the morality of war, the prevention of future wars, and the realism with which peace should be planned. A sequel to *Christian Crisis*, and *Christianity in the Market Place*.

BOOK REVIEWS

(Concluded from page 222)

The basic references and supplementary sources of business information are cited with numerical reference to the appendix where the author has provided a complete classified and annotated list of materials in the suggested order of purchase. There are 162 entries. Text and bibliography have been indexed.

This pamphlet which has the authority of an expert in business library service will be an invaluable reference aid to the librarian in the small or medium sized public library.

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